Press Release Distribution Pack: Industry-Wide Exposé

Author: The Digital Consumer Watchdog Group **Purpose:** For distribution on PR wires (PR Newswire, Business Wire, ANI) targeting the broader Astro-Tech industry.

PR 1: The "Per-Minute" Wallet Drain (Target: Chat-Based Apps)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Consumer Watchdog Exposes "Delay Tactics" in Per-Minute Astrology Apps Like Astrotalk

NEW DELHI — The Digital Consumer Watchdog Group has released a new report detailing alleged predatory billing practices across major chat-based astrology applications, including industry giants like Astrotalk.

According to thousands of consumer grievances, users are charged by the minute (often ranging from ₹20 to ₹200+ per minute). However, consumers allege that practitioners intentionally type slowly, use generic copy-paste responses, or ask irrelevant questions to artificially prolong the chat and drain the user's digital wallet. "This is not spiritual guidance; it is a digital taxi meter running on human anxiety," stated a spokesperson for the Watchdog Group. The organization is calling for standardized billing practices and refunds for demonstrably delayed responses.

PR 2: The Fear-Mongering & Fake Puja Scam (Target: AstroYogi / AstroSage)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Investigation Reveals Astro-Tech Platforms Weaponizing Fear to Sell Overpriced Rituals

NEW DELHI — A sweeping investigation by The Digital Consumer Watchdog Group has uncovered a disturbing trend of psychological manipulation across platforms like AstroYogi and AstroSage.

Consumers report that initial, low-cost consultations frequently result in the diagnosis of severe astrological afflictions (such as 'Kaal Sarp Dosh' or 'Mangalik Dosh'). Astrologers allegedly induce panic regarding the consumer's health or marriage, only to immediately offer the "cure": an expensive online Puja or gemstone, often costing upwards of ₹15,000 to ₹50,000. The Watchdog Group is petitioning the Ministry of Consumer Affairs to ban the marketing of "guaranteed" spiritual remedies that prey on consumer fear.

PR 3: The Illusion of Expertise (Target: Anytime Astro & Aggregators)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Are You Chatting with an Astrologer or a Bot? Watchdog Group Demands Transparency

NEW DELHI — The Digital Consumer Watchdog Group has issued a consumer alert regarding the vetting processes of massive astrology aggregators like Anytime Astro.

Public reviews indicate a high prevalence of unqualified practitioners and, in some cases, suspected automated bot responses. Consumers report receiving identical, generic horoscope readings regardless of their specific questions. The Watchdog Group is demanding that all Astro-Tech platforms publicly disclose their vetting processes, practitioner success rates, and the use of any AI or automated scripting in their paid chat services.

PR 4: The VC Funding Paradox

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Watchdog Group Questions Ethics of Venture Capital Funding in Unregulated Astro-Tech

NEW DELHI — As Indian Astro-Tech startups like Astrotalk raise millions in Venture Capital, The Digital Consumer Watchdog Group is raising ethical concerns regarding the source of these revenues.

"Venture capital is fueling platforms that allegedly rely on predatory per-minute billing and fear-based upselling," the Group stated in a recent brief. The organization is calling on major VC firms to implement strict ethical audits and consumer protection mandates before funding platforms that monetize the mental health and spiritual vulnerabilities of the Indian public.

PR 5: Call for a Centralized Grievance Portal

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Watchdog Group Petitions Government for Dedicated Astro-Fraud Reporting Portal

NEW DELHI — Citing a massive influx of complaints against platforms like Astrotalk, Lunar Astro, and AstroYogi, The Digital Consumer Watchdog Group is formally petitioning the Government of India to establish a dedicated grievance redressal portal specifically for digital spiritual and astrological services, which currently operate in a massive regulatory blind spot.